February 22, 2015

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 09-RENEW EO-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Reference: DRECP NEPA/CEQA

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate this opportunity to provide my input on the above referenced current proposals. As the former retired Chief Engineering Geologist for Los Angeles Department of Public Works for land development (duties involved legislation, environment issues, land use, subdivision etc.) I can appreciate the enormity of your responsibility of creating the subject document for land use to satisfy government and all peoples’ interest.

REQUEST

My concern and the purpose of this letter is as follows:

1) I request that the “Final Document” allows for the freedom of access for California families and earth science professionals to collect or pick up rocks (without being harassed, arrested, fined, or worse) in areas described as follows:

2) I request that “Areas” be included for aforementioned public access for freedom of access for collecting rocks by California families and earth science professionals include the following (understood previously
recommended to you by others and which I support: Afton Canyon, Blythe, Boron, Brown Butte (aka Lonely Butte), Chambless, Cinco, Gem Hill, Hector Hills, Hauser Beds, Kramer Junction, Lavic and Jasper Hill, Newbury, Sperry Wash, Stoddard Well, Yermo, and Yuha Basin.

DISCUSSION

I have been and still am a California practicing geologist since 1960 (currently California Registered Geologist and Engineering Geologist) and find such aforementioned freedom to collect rocks diminishing with time even as a professional geologist. For example, I have been informed in the past upon inquiry with "Forest Service Officials" that I cannot pick up any rocks in the National Forest as everyone else then could too and may result in none for the future.

Having rocks available to the public allows for: the practice of geology; encourages interest in earth sciences of children and adults, particularly seniors; creates the opportunity to experience the joy and satisfaction of arts and craft made from a local inexpensive rock; etc. Notably, for the most part surface rocks available on California lands typically available for collecting are weathered thus questionable quality and demand.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Poppler

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Response to Comment Letter F117

David W. Poppler
February 22, 2015

F117-1 See responses to comment letter G5.
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